

Outlook

THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND FACULTY AND STAFF WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

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Runner Carries Torch For a Good Cause

Page 3

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Professors Debate Merits of the Draft

Professors William A. Galston and Robert K. Fullinwider of the School of Public Affairs led a discussion on the merits of compulsory civil service recently as part of the Committee on Politics, Philosophy, and Public Policy (CP4) Workshop Series. The discussion was based on the professors' opposing viewpoints expressed in precirculated papers.

The discussion focused on the idea of adopting a draft similar to one common in Europe that forces high school graduates to undertake a year of military or civil service.

Galston had written in his paper that such a system would help increase meaningful contact between the divergent upper and lower classes in this country.

"The only contact the college-educated upper classes have with the lower is when they come over to do work at their house," Galston said.

Fullinwider disputed the idea, saying a draft would not necessarily help solve the "decoupling and

See **DRAFT**, page 2

Researchers Uncover Piece to Puzzle of Magnetic Explosions

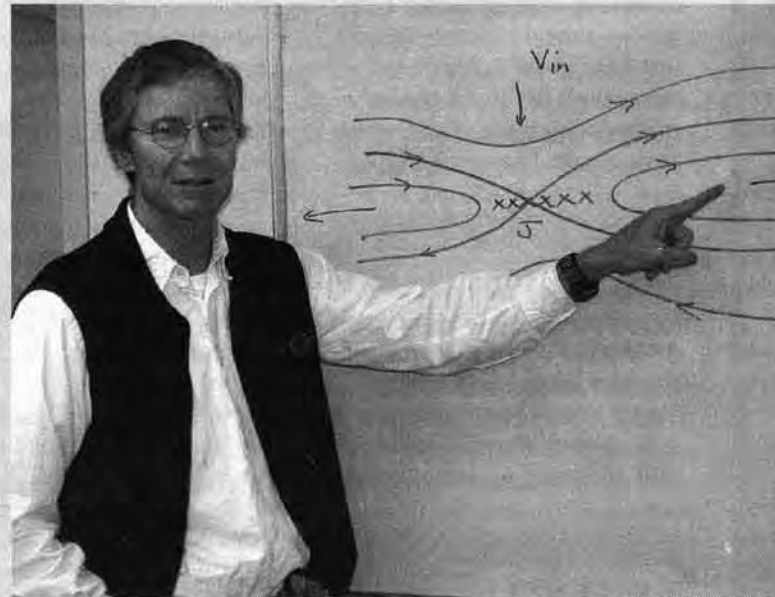


PHOTO BY CYNTHIA MITCHEL

James Drake illustrates how two oppositely directed magnetic fields annihilate each other when they come close together, producing an explosion in a process called magnetic reconnection. To see a photograph of the phenomenon, visit Outlook online at www.collegepublisher.com/outlook.

A team of scientists led by Maryland physics professor James Drake has found what may be one of the final pieces to a puzzle scientists have been trying to solve for almost 40 years: how magnetic fields produce the explosive release

of energy seen in solar flares, in magnetic storms at the edge of Earth's atmosphere and in many other powerful cosmic events throughout the universe.

Magnetic field, or force, lines act much like giant rubber bands. Physicists have

long been convinced that the primary mechanism for release of magnetic energy is a process called magnetic reconnection that occurs when oppositely directed magnetic field lines come in contact.

During this process, parallel magnetic field lines break and reconnect, forming back-to-back slingshots that release their energy by exploding outwards in opposite directions. Since charged particles are trapped on magnetic field lines, most of the energy in the field is converted to the flow of ionized particles (plasma) that is pulled along by the expanding field lines.

However, classic magnetic reconnection theory has one major problem: it incorrectly

See **DRAKE**, page 4

President Calls for Nominations

Nominations for the President's Medal and the President's Distinguished Service Awards are being accepted. The President's Medal is the highest honor the College Park campus bestows upon a member of its community. It is intended to recognize the accomplishments of an outstanding community member who has made significant contributions to the advancement of the university.

The President's Distinguished Service Awards recognize exceptional performance, leadership and service by a member of the university staff.

Nominations submitted in the past two years will automatically be reconsidered; however, updated information may be provided. The committee will review the nominations and make recommendations to President Dan Mote, who will make the final selections. Awardees will be honored at the fall convocation on Oct. 7.

Individuals may be nominated in either or both award categories. Nominees will be considered for an award only in the category for which they have been nominated. Individuals serving on the advisory committee are not eligible for nomination. The nominations in all categories are due by April 30.

Each nomination must be accompanied by a cover sheet that includes the following information: the name of the nominee, the award for which the individual is being nominated and the name of the nominator. Nominations submitted in the past two years will automatically be reconsidered; however, updated information may be provided. Nominations should be sent to:

Professor Bruce James, Chair
President's Awards Advisory
Committee
c/o President's Office
1115 Main Administration
Building

Listed below are the criteria, the eligibility and the required nominating materials. The committee reserves the right to seek additional information on any nominee.

Nomination materials: A letter of nomination should be submitted, clearly indicating why this individual should be so honored and how the individual exemplifies the criteria for this award. A resumé, curriculum vitae, or brief biographical sketch of the nominee should

See **PRES. AWARDS**, page 3

Best Work, Plans for Russia's Future Presented

Analysis and insight give content to the clash of interests in a democracy. Think tanks can be the source of independent ideas on reform, yet only if they are themselves independent and staffed by top experts.

The Center for Institutional Reform and the Informal Sector (IRIS) at the university, with the Moscow Public Science Foundation, is working to advance the Russian economic transition by generating a stream of policy studies of high quality and relevance and developing efficient think tanks outreach for policy makers and society.

Since 1999, IRIS's Strengthening Economic Think Tanks program, funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development has provided financial support, professional advice and training to a range of Russian economic policy think tanks. The program operates as a competition, providing grants for the most promising analyses and pairing them with support for both development of the host think tank and dissemination of the research outputs.

See **IRIS**, page 2

Moving, Logically, Into New Positions

Approximately 140 people applied for the College Park Scholars executive director position vacated by Kathy McAdams, but after a long winnowing process, it was filled by a Scholars' ally from way back.

Greig Stewart, former associate dean of the Philip Merrill College of Journalism, looks forward to being an official part of a program he's watched grow under McAdams' leadership. She will be heading back to her public relations roots as a member of the journalism faculty. Both see their new positions, and the apparent swap, as natural progressions.

"Journalism education is experiential, interdisciplinary...the engine of it is curiosity," says Stewart.

"This fits the scholars mold," adds McAdams.

College Park Scholars, one of 11 campus living-learning programs, is structured around 12 interdisciplinary theme-based communities of learning. First- and second-year, academically talented students usually live and attend classes together. Co- and extracurricular activities provide nontraditional ways



PHOTO COURTESY OF K. MCADAMS
Kathy McAdams

for faculty to interact with students. Stewart may be most familiar to those in the Media, Self & Society community proposed by journalism colleague Steve Barkin in 1998.

The transition was smooth and McAdams will rest for a bit after a productive five and a half years. When she began, there were only nine communities living on a few floors. Now Scholars, including their Cumberland Hall office, seem to have taken over the Cambridge quad. "I was exhausted. The program did a lot of growing and we drew in a bunch of wonderful people.

"Journalism never really let me go," says McAdams, who

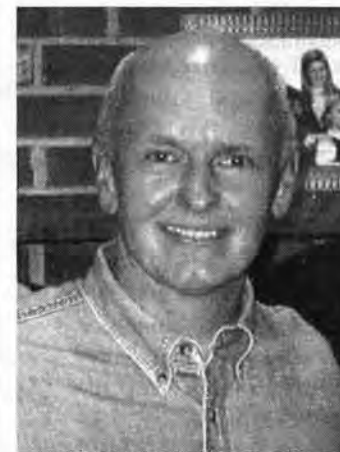


PHOTO COURTESY OF G. STEWART
Greig Stewart

continued to administer the Test of Standard Written English required for journalism majors and supervise five doctoral students. Though she'll miss her students' energy, she looks forward to researching—and recreating—the Lewis and Clark expedition as a public relations ploy by Thomas Jefferson for the Louisiana Purchase.

Stewart seems to share McAdams' penchant for staying busy. His plans include creating and administering an assessment tool for Scholars, creating better cross-community links and developing a student programming council.

dateline maryland

YOUR GUIDE TO UNIVERSITY EVENTS : APRIL 8 - 14

TUESDAY

april 8

7 p.m., Trembling before G_d Hoff Theater, Stamp Student Union. Film. For more information, visit www.inform.umd.edu/StudentOrg/pridealliance/.

WEDNESDAY

april 9

Noon-1 p.m., Culture, Coping and Childhood Sexual Abuse: A Qualitative Study of Latinas 0114 Counseling Center, Shoemaker Building. With Counseling Center psychological intern Daniela Ligiero. For more information, contact Vivian S. Boyd at vb14@umail.umd.edu.

11:30 a.m.-2 p.m., American Indian and African Diaspora: Similarity in Dance Nyumburu Cultural Center Amphitheatre. Featuring performances by the Soaring Eagles Dance Troupe of the Baltimore Indian Center, the African Student Association Dance Troupe and Demetria Stallings. For more information, contact Norma Tomas at nt38@umail.umd.edu.

7 p.m., Writers Here and Now Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center. Readings by Thom Gunn and August Kleinzahler. For more information, contact Don Berger at db188@umail.umd.edu or visit www.claricesmithcenter.umd.edu.

THURSDAY

april 10

9:30 a.m.-6 p.m., IRIS Lecture: Beyond Transition to Modernization and Growth: The View from Russia's Best Think Tanks See article on page 1.

4 p.m., Sacred Blood and Monarchy: The Intersection of Dreams, Religion, and Politics in Elizabethan England 1213 Art-Sociology. Carole Levin of the University of Nebraska will speak as part of the Graduate School's Distinguished Lecturer Series. The lecture will include a question and answer session. For more information, contact Anna Salajegheh at 5-8140 or annasala@wam.umd.edu.

4:15-5:30 p.m., Talk About Teaching: Censorship: Parent/Community Context Conference Room, Center for Renaissance & Baroque Studies (0135 Taliaferro Hall). Students, classroom teachers and administrators from schools and community colleges are welcome. Bring a dozen copies of a lesson plan to share with colleagues. For more information, contact Nancy Traubitz at 5-6833 or nt32@umail.umd.edu, or visit www.inform.umd.edu/crbs/programs/cast/.

8:30-10 p.m., Magdalen Hsu-Li Memorial Chapel. The singer-songwriter will perform to celebrate pride and to call for an end to sexual violence against women. For more information, visit www.inform.umd.edu/StudentOrg/pridealliance.

FRIDAY

april 11

Noon, Geochemical Heterogeneity in Contaminated and Uncontaminated Aquifers 1201 Physics Building. With Jean Behr, University of Wisconsin-Madison. Coffee and tea will be served starting at 11:30 a.m. in the Geology Building. For more information, contact Karen Prestegard at kpresto@geol.umd.edu.

Noon, A Molecular Phylogeny of the Entomopathogenic Fungus Beauveria: Cryptic Speciation, Phylogeography and Host Affiliation 1130 Plant Sciences. With Steve Rehner of the Bee Research Lab in Beltsville. For more information, visit www.entomology.umd.edu.

Noon-1:30 p.m., Center for Political Communication and Civic Leadership Lecture 0200 Skinner. John Powers of the National Archives at College Park will lecture on the Nixon tapes and Vietnam: on Nixon's reactions to the Vietnam conflict, his attempts to decrease public scrutiny, and his wartime strategies. Powers will give an overview of the conflict and draw connections with current foreign policy. For more information, contact Shawn Parry-Giles at 5-6527 or sp172@umail.umd.edu.

8 p.m., Pianist Marc-André Hamelin Gildenhorn Recital Hall, Clarice Smith Performing

Arts Center. The critically acclaimed pianist will perform Shumann and Godowsky compositions, and his own. Tickets are \$25 (\$5 for full-time students with ID). For more information, visit www.claricesmithcenter.umd.edu.

SATURDAY

april 12

11 p.m., The Rocky Horror Picture Show Hoff Theater, Stamp Union. For more information, visit www.inform.umd.edu/StudentOrg/pridealliance/.

SUNDAY

april 13

3 p.m., Graduate Student Conductors' Concert Dekelboum Concert Hall, Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center. School of Music graduate students will lead the University Symphony Orchestra. Free. For more information, contact Amy Harbison, 5-8169 or harbison@wam.umd.edu, or visit www.claricesmithcenter.umd.edu.

4-6 p.m., Taal International Dance Group Cultural Dance Performance Hoff Theater, Stamp Student Union. Free. For more information, contact veena@wam.umd.edu.

5 p.m., Iron Ladies Hoff Theater, Stamp Union. Film. For information, visit www.inform.umd.edu/StudentOrg/pridealliance.

MONDAY

april 14

4-5 p.m., Ruth Ozeki Book Signing 0200 Symons. The award-winning author will sign her new book and speak on identity, art and social change. For more information, contact Deborah Rosenfelt at 5-6883.

5 p.m., Soft: An Architectural Approach 0204 School of Architecture. Yolande Daniels of Columbia University will speak as part of the School of Architecture's Spring Lecture Series 2003. Free. For more information, contact Ann Petrone at apetrone@deans.umd.edu.

For additional event listings, visit www.collegepublisher.com/outlook.

IRIS: Think Tank Conference

Continued from page 1

"This program has expanded our professional contacts among the best researchers in Russia," said IRIS Director Charles Cadwell. "Coupled with our work on economics curriculum development at the Moscow-based Higher School of Economics, the think tank program has allowed us to advance research ideas and expand our own understanding of developments in Russia."

At a conference on April 10 in Washington, the best of the work by the think tank grantees will be presented in the course of an update on reform progress.

"In recent years, the Russian think tanks community has become an active force in the Russian policy making process," said Project Director Leonid Polishchuk. He said that, responding to a pent-up demand for professional policy analysis, and with support provided by various donor agencies, the fledgling think tank sector has grown in scope and scale, and has enhanced its capacity for applied policy studies. He noted that leading Russian think tanks, some of which have almost a decade-long history of operation now have experience fundraising and managing research agendas and staff. Policy makers increasingly turn to think tanks in search of ideas, blueprints, assessments and prognoses.

Since the program inception in the fall of 1999, 90 grants have been awarded to a panoply of Russian think tanks and experts studying public policy issues. Some of these grants were implemented in the "quick response" mode, which allowed timely addressing of the urgent needs of Russian policy process in professional assessments of policy issues, options and dilemmas. The program has become a hub of the Russian think tank sector. It maintains direct links to more than 80 research and public policy institutions across the nation, and has spawned the recently created Association of Russian Economic Think Tanks, which provides the nation's think tank sector with common access resources, promotes think tanks communication and outreach, and is engaged in collective advocacy on behalf of non-profit non-government institutions.

For more information on this project, visit www.iris.umd.edu/adass/proj/russia3.asp. For information about the conference, visit www.iris.umd.edu/NEWS/conferences/sett2003.asp.

Draft: Duties of Citizenship

Continued from page 1

cultural gulf" problems in the country. He also claimed that flooding the military with unwilling recruits would be costly and damaging.

The broader issue raised was the mutually beneficial duties of citizenship and if the government was justified in coercing citizens to perform them.

Fullinwider claimed that everyone has a "zone of discretion" in choosing to do and tailor his or her duties. He said the state acts presumptuously in forcing a particular mode of service, military or civil. There were emergency situations, such as the need to battle a foreign invasion, he added, that would narrow this zone of discretion and make military service non-optional.

Another timely issue was having a leadership class with no military background. Galston said current leaders were too far removed from the impact of their decisions concerning war. Alluding to what was then the looming confrontation with Iraq, he added that very few members of the current Congress have served in the military or have children in the armed forces.

Outlook

Outlook is the weekly faculty-staff newspaper serving the University of Maryland campus community.

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Cynthia Mitchel • Art Director

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Letters to the editor, story suggestions and campus information are welcome. Please submit all material two weeks before the Tuesday of publication.

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calendar guide

Calendar phone numbers listed as 4-xxxx or 5-xxxx stand for the prefix 314 or 405. Calendar information for Outlook is compiled from a combination of Inform's master calendar and submissions to the Outlook office. Submissions are due two weeks prior to the date of publication. To reach the calendar editor, call 405-7615 or send e-mail to outlook@accmail.umd.edu.

Stages

NEWS FROM THE CLARICE SMITH

PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

André Watts Performs Piano Artistry

As artist-in-residence at the university, celebrated pianist André Watts has been inspiring new artists here on campus for nearly three years and has been drawing legions of fans since his legendary televised appearance with the New York Philharmonic's Young People's Concerts at the age of 16.

Shortly after his stunning debut, Watts was approached by Leonard Bernstein, who asked him to fill in at the last minute for an ailing Glenn Gould in performances of Liszt's E-flat Concerto with the New York Philharmonic. The rest, as they say, is history.

Since that time, his performances each year with the world's great orchestras and conductors and his sold-out recitals and appearances at the most prestigious international festivals bring him to every corner of the globe. He's also appeared on numerous PBS, BBC and Arts & Entertainment network programming, performing with the New York Philharmonic, Boston Symphony, Philadelphia Orchestra and Mostly Mozart Festival Orchestra among others.

On Wednesday, April 16 at 10 a.m., Watts will lead a piano master class with select students of the School of Music's esteemed piano division. Working one on one with students, Watts will present an extraordinary opportunity for students to polish their piano proficiency. The event is free and open to the public.

Watts performs Friday, April 18 at 8 p.m. at the Center. For ticket information, call (301) 405-ARTS, or visit www.claricesmithcenter.umd.edu.



Potent Evenings of Dance Take Center Stage

He's danced with dance icons Martha Graham, Merce Cunningham and Paul Taylor. Last January, dance department students and faculty had an extraordinary opportunity to work with the gifted and renowned American modern dance choreographer Dan Wagoner.

As an artist-in-residence for eight whirlwind days, Wagoner forged relationships with student dancers, conceiving what was to become a new dance work titled, "Shadow Behind the Sun." The dance work features an eclectic blend of music, including k.d. Lang, Dixie Chicks, Philip Glass, Evelyn Glennie and selections from poet Allen Ginsburg's opera "Hydrogen Jukebox." On Wednesday, April 30 at 6 p.m., the work will also be performed on the Millennium Stage in the Kennedy Center's grand foyer. The event is free and open to the public.

Born in West Virginia, Wagoner earned a degree in pharmacy, but by his mid-20s was dancing full time, studying dance at Connecticut College and then going on to work with numerous dance legends. For 25 years, Wagoner directed his own New York-based company, Dan Wagoner and Dancers, where he choreographed more than 55 dances and performed throughout the United States, Canada, South America, Europe and Asia and for the annual season in New York City.

On Thursday and Friday, April 24 and 25, and Sunday and Monday, April 27 and 28, dance department students take center stage in a program premiering Wagoner's work and other student works choreographed by Connie Fink, Ruben Graciani, Erin Nunes and Michele Raine. For ticket information, call (301) 405-ARTS.

extracurricular

Running for Life

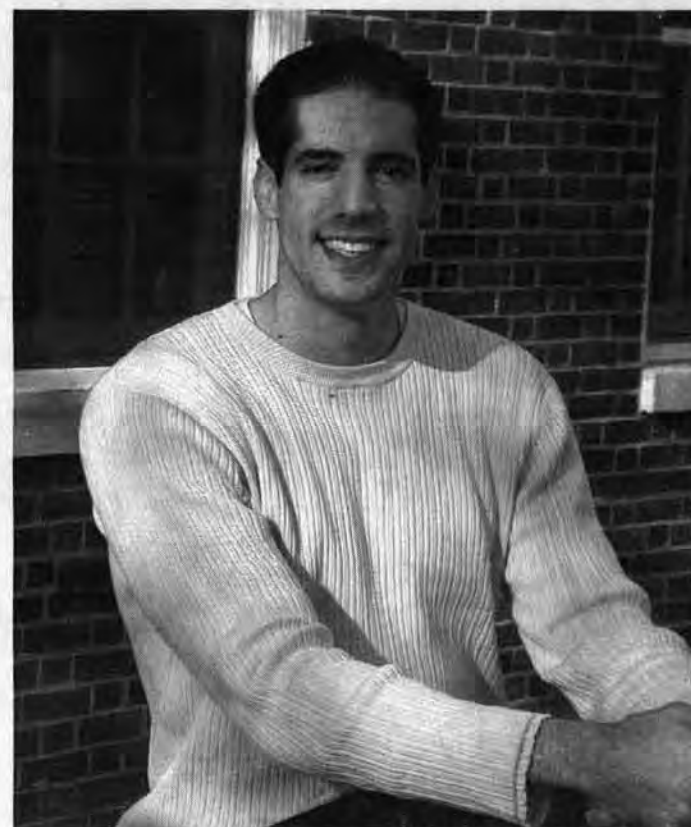


PHOTO BY MONETTE AUSTIN BAILEY

Dave Klein will run a marathon to help leukemia patients.

He's been running long distances since participating on his high school's cross country team, though what Dave Klein is training for now matches his passion for the sport with a larger health matter.

On June 21, Klein, and his girlfriend Katherine Freiberg, will compete in the Mayor's Midnight Sun Marathon in Anchorage, Alaska. It is a 26.2 mile race sponsored by the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. Runners must raise \$4,000 and will compete on behalf of an "honored teammate." In Klein's case it is 11-year-old Justin who lives in Baltimore and has acute leukemia. Having a face to attach to the disease makes the importance of what he's doing even more real.

"They had a kick-off event at the Hard Rock Cafe in Baltimore. The honored teammates and runners were there, but one of the teammates had died before the event. It was devastating."

Leukemia is, according to the society, the number one killer of children in the United States. However, the survival rate is improving.

A friend of Freiberg's also died after fighting lymphoma, so when the couple went looking for a way to run for a cause, the society seemed the perfect answer.

"This will be my first long, competitive event. I've competed in a few local 5Ks, though I never stopped run-

ning after high school. The first of my life-long goals is to run a marathon without stopping," says Klein.

A graduating master's student in the public health program, Klein was recently accepted into the Uniformed Services University Medical School in Bethesda, where he begins training in July. He'll come out a 2nd lieutenant in the Air Force. And because life and health are so important to Klein, he's also an emergency medical technician with the Pikesville Volunteer Fire Department. He says contributing his time and talents to such causes follows his mission to advocate for healthier living for all people.

"I want to encourage others to balance their physical and mental health," he says.

To train for the marathon, runners are part of regional teams set up by the society. Other than his team's one long run per week, Klein runs and does weights workouts four times a week. He arranges this around the 20 hours or so he logs as coordinator of education and outreach for the Office of Judicial Programs.

When asked why, cause aside, they chose a race so far from home, Klein said that his girlfriend once visited Anchorage and said it was "one of the most beautiful places" she's ever seen.

To make a donation to Klein, or for more information, call (301) 314-8210 or e-mail davyk@wam.umd.edu.

President's Awards: Nominees Sought

Continued from page 1

accompany the nomination letter. At least two, but no more than three, seconding letters of nomination from outside the primary unit in which the individual is employed may accompany the nomination or may be sent under separate cover. Each nomination should include a cover sheet with the name of the nominee, the award for which the individual is being nominated and the name of the nominator. Nominations submitted in the past two years will automatically be reconsidered; however, updated information may be provided.

THE PRESIDENT'S MEDAL

Criteria: This award is the highest honor the campus community can bestow. The recipient of this award will be a member of the community with an exemplary record of sustained and acknowledged contribution to the quality of life on the campus.

The candidate's career should be distinguished by a dedication to the fulfillment of the campus' goals and mission, by professional accomplishments, and by campus service. Particular emphasis will be placed on contributions that have had a wide-ranging and enhancing influence on the entire campus community.

Eligibility: Any full-time member of the campus community may be nominated for the President's Medal. A nominee must have at least 10 years of full-time employment on the campus (in one or more capacities).

PRESIDENT'S DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARDS

Criteria: The President's Distinguished Service Awards recognize exceptional performance, leadership, and service by a member of the university staff. The recipient of this award will

have a record of exemplary performance and distinctive contributions to the operation of an administrative, academic, research or service unit on campus. He or she will have clearly demonstrated initiative toward the improvement of university programs or campus activities and will have shown commitment to the campus community as a whole.

Eligibility: Any full-time staff member, including academic administrators, who has been employed on campus for at least 10 years (in any of one or more capacities) may be nominated for a President's Distinguished Service Award. (Individuals who hold a faculty appointment are NOT eligible for this award.) No more than five awards will be given annually and the number of exempt and non-exempt award recipients cannot exceed three.

Editor's note: Outlook's feature, extracurricular, will take occasional glimpses into university employees' lives outside of their day jobs. We welcome story suggestions; call Monette Austin Bailey at (301) 405-4629 or send them to outlook@accmail.umd.edu.

For Your Interest

Celebrating Diversity, Sharing Skills



PHOTO BY CYNTHIA MITCHEL

Residential Facilities employees prepare a quilt in preparation for the division's annual employee appreciation program held April 4 at the Inn and Conference Center. The quilt demonstrates the day's theme of diversity in its multicultural sewing team, as well as by featuring photos of co-workers. From left, Cheryl Brewton, Kathy Budd, Delores Carter, Amity Hall, Nettie Ward, Marlene Schlichtig and Gwen Thomas worked on pieces of the large project.

Planning Problems and Prospects: The Hispanic Community

This discussion panel will meet Tuesday, April 8, from 7 to 9:30 p.m. at the School of Architecture Auditorium, to discuss issues facing the Hispanic community and the prospects for change. The session aims to provide the community an opportunity to meet those actively involved in addressing the challenges confronting the area's Hispanic community and to share insights, ideas and strategies for improvement.

The guest panelists will be:

- Eugenio Arene, executive director, Council of Latino Agencies (D.C.)
- Carmen Nieves, executive director, Centro de la Comunidad (Baltimore)
- Gustavo Torres, executive director, CASA de Maryland, Inc. (Montgomery County)
- Luis Vasquez-Ajmac, president & CEO, MAYA Advertising & Communications (D.C.)
- Moderator: Ted Loza, Latino liaison, Ward One (D.C.)

Discussion will be in English; refreshments will follow. For more information, call (301) 405-6789.

Artistic Summer Pursuits

The Summer Arts Camp, held in the Art and Learning Center, Stamp Student Union, features a creative, fun curriculum for children ages 6-12. The camps last one week and run throughout July. The camp day is from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., with aftercare available from 3 to 5 p.m. All campers select one specialty per session and participate in general arts each day. The specialties for this summer are as follows:

- **Session I** (July 7-11) A. Art Safari; B. Harry Potter's Workshop
- **Session II** (July 14-18) A. Jewelry Making; B. World Music
- **Session III** (July 21-25) A. Earth Science Exploration; B. Colonial Crafts
- **Session IV** (July 28-Aug. 1)

A. Global Movers; B. Puppetry

For more information or to register, visit www.union.umd.edu/artcenter or call (301) 314-ARTS.

Around the CIRCLE

The Center for Information and Research on Civic Learning and Engagement (CIRCLE) announces the publication of its new newsletter, "Around the CIRCLE" Research and Practice. Articles from the first issue include a look at a Carnegie Corporation of New York-CIRCLE report on the civic mission of schools and research on easing voting methods to encourage youth turnout.

The free quarterly publication is available to faculty, staff and students by e-mailing a request, with name and mailing address, to dsapienz@umd.edu.

LibQUAL+ at UM Libraries

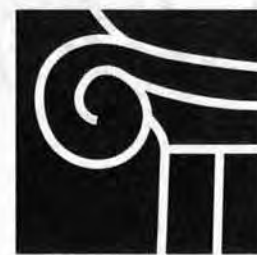
The Libraries are once again taking part in a national survey of 318 research institutions sponsored by the Association of Research Libraries. Results from the LibQual+ survey will help libraries improve their quality of service. On Tuesday, April 8, you may receive an electronic mailing inviting you to complete a Web-based survey. It will take 10 minutes to complete. Those who complete the survey will be entered into a drawing to win a free laptop.

For more information about LibQUAL+, visit www.lib.umd.edu/STAFF/PAS/MIS/LibQual.html.

Golf Club Memberships

The University Golf Course currently has a limited number of slots available for new members. Annual fees for faculty and staff range from \$550 to \$1,400 (non-university memberships cost from \$1,500 to \$2,000).

For more information, contact Rebecca Shepherd at (301) 314-9783 or rshepherd@golf.umd.edu.



Notable

Edward Sybert, director of the Technology Advancement Program, has been named president of the Maryland Business Incubation Association (MBIA). He has served as MBIA's vice president since its inception two years ago.

Professors **Gary Rubloff** and **Ichiro Takeuchi** have received an NSF International Materials Institute for Combinatorial Sciences and Materials Informatics. The National Science Foundation has awarded a five-year, \$3.5 million grant to Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, the University of Maryland and Florida International University for an integrated program of research, education and global outreach aimed at fundamental change in the practice of

materials discovery and development.

The **Robert H. Smith School of Business** has been named one of the nation's top schools for entrepreneurship by Entrepreneur magazine. In its April 2003 issue, Entrepreneur places the Smith School #3 nationwide in rankings based on a survey of alumni, and #5 nationwide in rankings based on a survey of peer program directors. This is the first year for the survey.

Benjamin Barber, Distinguished University Professor of government and politics, will receive the John Dewey Award in recognition of his "contributions to education and culture." He also was awarded an honorary doctorate of humane letters from Connecticut College for his "scholarship, writing and commitment to democracy."

Tom Flynn, associate director of Conferences and Visitor Services, has been named president-elect of the Association of Collegiate Conference and Events Directors International.

Drake: Solar Flare Mystery

Continued from page 1

predicts a gradual release of energy. For example, theoretical calculations generally predicted that a solar flare should take years or even decades to release energy, while observations have shown it takes only minutes.

In the Feb. 7 edition of the journal *Science*, Drake, along with university colleagues Michael Shay and Marc Swisdak, released findings that for the first time indicate at least some of this explosive energy happens as the result of plasma turbulence generated during reconnection. Using large-scale computer simulations developed at Maryland, together with data from NASA's Polar satellite, the team found that intense currents of electrons are generated during magnetic reconnection.

These intense currents drive strong turbulence that takes the form of "electron holes," three-dimensional regions where the electron density is depleted. The satellite data from Polar indicate that the magnetosphere is riddled with these holes, which have diameters of up to a mile and travel at speeds in excess of 1,000 miles per second. According to the researchers, the intense electric field associated with these electron holes causes electron scattering that is sufficiently strong to sustain fast reconnection.

"Electron scattering by the

electron holes also strongly heats electrons and may therefore ultimately [explain] the surprisingly large amount of energy that is transferred to electrons during reconnection events in the solar corona and the Earth's magnetosphere," said Drake, a professor in physics and in the university's Institute for Research in Electronics and Applied Physics.

Drake led a team of scientists in 2000 that published a widely acclaimed study indicating that during the magnetic reconnection process, a two-layer flow of particles is created that speeds the release of energy. In this laminar flow theory, "whistler waves" cause the plasma that is pulled along by the slinging field lines to divide into two streams, one of electrons and the other of ionized atoms.

"Based on these latest findings, I think the correct conceptual framework for understanding the explosive release of magnetic energy is a combination of laminar and turbulent mechanisms rather than one or the other alone," Drake said.

"Whistler waves provided a good explanation for every part of this puzzle but one, and that was the observation that during reconnection events like solar flares there is a huge amount of energy going into energetic electrons. Our latest findings indicate turbulence may be that missing piece."